

Message Text

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SUBJECT: DEPUTY MINISTER SEMENOV'S STATEMENT OF JANUARY 30, 1976
(SALT TWO-891)

THE FOLLOWING IS STATEMENT DELIVERED BY DEPUTY MINISTER
SEMENOV AT THE SALT TWO MEETING OF JANUARY 30, 1976.

SEMENOV STATEMENT, JANUARY 30, 1976

MR. AMBASSADOR,

ON BEHALF OF THE USSR DELEGATION I WELCOME YOU, THE MEMBERS
OF THE U.S. DELEGATION AND ITS STAFF, TO THE USSR MISSION AS WE
RESUME IN GENEVA THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC
OFFENSIVE ARMS. TODAY'S MEETING IS THE FIRST SINCE THE
NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW OF GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE OF THE CPSU L. I. BREZHNEV AND MEMBER OF THE
POLITBURO OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CPSU, USSR MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS A.A. GRYMYKO, WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE
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HENRY KISSINGER, IN THE COURSE OF WHICH QUESTIONS OF LIMITATION

OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS WERE CONSIDERED.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS THE HOPE THAT OUR WORK WILL PROCEED
ACCORDINGLY IN A BUSINESSLIKE AND CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT.

THE FLOOR IS YOURS, MR. AMBASSADOR.

(AMBASSADOR JOHNSON DELIVERED HIS STATEMENT.)

MR. AMBASSADOR,

I

IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW JANUARY 20-23,
1976, OF GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE
CPSU L. I. BREZHNEV AND MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO OF THE CENTRAL
COMMITTEE OF THE CPSU, USSR MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS A. A.
GROMYKO, WITH U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER,
SPECIAL ATTENTION WAS GIVEN TO CONSIDERATION OF THE SPECIFIC
ISSUES INVOLVED IN WORKING OUT A NEW LONG-TERM AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE USSR AND THE U.S. ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE
ARMS. PROGRESS WAS MADE ON A NUMBER OF THESE ISSUES. IT WAS ALSO
AGREED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WOULD CONTINUE WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF
FINDING MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS TO THE REMAINING ISSUES.

IT IS CLEAR THAT IN OUR WORK WE WILL BE SUPPORTED BY THE
RESULTS OF THE SOVIET-AMERICAN NEGOTIATIONS IN MOSCOW.

WE PROCEED FROM THE EXISTING MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING THAT IN
WORKING OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT THE SIDES WILL
BE GUIDED BY THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF EQUALITY AND EQUAL
SECURITY, AGREED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL.

THE NEGOTIATIONS HELD IN MOSCOW AND THE COMMUNIQUE ON THE
RESULTING PROGRESS IN THE CONSIDERATION OF QUESTIONS OF LIMITING
STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS ATTRACT WORLD ATTENTION. THIS IS
ADDITIONAL CONFIRMATION THAT MEASURES LIMITING STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE
ARMS ARE OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE, BOTH FOR IMPROVING RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE USSR AND THE U.S. AND FOR STRENGTHENING PEACE
AND SECURITY IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

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IN OUR WORK HERE IN GENEVA WE SHOULD BE ASSISTED BY RECOGNITION
OF THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE MATTER
ENTRUSTED TO US.

II

THE USSR DELEGATION IS AUTHORIZED TO CONFIRM THE READINESS OF
THE SOVIET SIDE TO SPECIFY THE UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVED IN CONNECTION

WITH THE INTERIM AGREEMENT ON THE INCREASE OF THE DIMENSIONS OF ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS IN THE PROCESS OF THEIR MODERNIZATION BY NOT MORE THAN 10-15 PERCENT IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE ORIGINAL VOLUME OF THE ICBM SILO LAUNCHERS SHOULD NOT INCREASE BY MORE THAN 32 PERCENT. WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THAT VOLUME, THE DIMENSIONS OF A SILO COULD BE INCREASED IN INTERNAL DIAMETER, IN DEPT OR IN BOTH DIRECTIONS AT THE DISCRETION OF EACH SIDE.

THE UNDERSTANDING ON THIS SCORE WILL FACILITATE FURTHER PROGRESS IN AGREEING UPON THE SPECIFIC PROVISION OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT.

III

THE DELEGATIONS FACE THE TASK OF CONTINUING THE WORK OF AGREEING UPON THE PROVISIONS OF THE JOINT DRAFT AGREEMENT ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS FOR THE PERIOD UNTIL THE END OF 1985. WE PROCEED FROM THE PREMISE THAT BOTH SIDES CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THIS WORK MUST BE CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF THE VLADIVOSTOK UNDERSTANDING RECORDED IN THE AIDE-MEMOIRE OF DECEMBER 10, 1974. THE SOVIET UNION FIRMLY ADVOCATES IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED AT THE MEETING OF L. I. BREZHNEV WITH PRESIDENT GERALD FORD IN VALDIVOSTOK. OF COURSE, IN SO DOING THE RESULTS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE SUBSEQUENT PERIOD SHOULD ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

AS STATED BY MEMBER OF THE POLITBURO OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE CPSU, USSR MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS A. A. GROMYKO ON JANUARY 27, 1976, "WE WANT THE NEW AGREEMENT TO BE WORKED OUT AND THEN SIGNED, THE EARLIER THE BETTER. THIS HAS BEEN REPEATEDLY STRESSED BY L. I. BREZHNEV IN PUBLIC, AS WELL AS AT MEETINGS WITH THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE. THE SOVIET UNION DOES AND WILL DO ALL IT CAN TOWARD THAT END."

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IV

IN THE COURSE OF PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS THE SOVIET SIDE SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION A WHOLE SERIES OF CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSALS AIMED AT REACHING AGREEMENT ON THE QUESTIONS ASSIGNED TO THE DELEGATIONS.

THESE PROPOSALS OF THE SOVIET SIDE ARE ALSO REFLECTED IN THE JOINT DRAFT TEXT OF THE AGREEMENT AS OF DECEMBER 18, 1975. IN PARTICULAR, THEY CONCERN SUCH IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE AGREEMENT BEING WORKED OUT AS THE QUESTION OF DEFINING THE SYSTEMS BEING LIMITED, THE ISSUES OF VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS, OF BANNING CERTAIN NEW TYPES OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS, THE QUESTION

OF THE FUNCTIONS OF THE SCC WITH RESPECT TO THE NEW AGREEMENT,
AND SO FORTH.

WE PROCEED FROM THE PREMISE THAT THE U.S. SIDE HAS MADE AN
APPROPRIATE STUDY OF THE PROPOSALS OF THE SOVIET SIDE. OBVIOUSLY,
SUCCESS AT OUR NEGOTIATIONS REQUIRES CNSTRUCTIVE MOVEMENT BY
BOTH SIDES.

I WOULD LIKE TO REAFFIRM THAT THE USSR DELEGATION HAS
INSTRUCTIONS TO CONDUCT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN A BUSINESSLIKE AND
CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF REACHING FULL AGREEMENT
ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT BEING WORKED OUT, WHICH WERE
ASSIGNED TO THE DELEGATIONS.

THE USSR DELEGATION PROCEED FROM THE PREMISE THAT THE U.S.
DELEGATION, TOO, WILL BE GUIDED BY JUST SUCH A CONSTRUCTIVE
AND BUSINESSLIKE APPROACH.

JOHNSON

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